

Remarks

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application and the same are rejected. Claims 1-20 remain in the application and are presented for review and further consideration by the Examiner.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada, U.S. Patent No. 6,088,125. The Examiner states that Okada discloses each of the elements in the rejected claims and, in particular, detecting a failure in the complete transmission of electronic data to the e-mail server. (Examiner's Action, page 2, ¶ 2).

Applicants respectfully disagree.

Okada discloses a method for monitoring facsimile transmissions initiated by a user on a network. The success or failure of the facsimile transmission is reported to the user by email. The email communication is not monitored to detect a failure in the complete transmission to the email server.

In contrast, Applicants' independent claims 1, 8, and 13 require detection of a failure in the complete transmission of electronic data to the email server (not the facsimile recipient as in Okada).

Applicants' claims 3, 10, and 15 require monitoring a communication status with the email server. Okada only discloses detecting whether a facsimile transmission was successful, not monitoring a communication status with an email server.

Applicants' claims 4 and 16 require, before detecting the failure, establishing communication with the email server and wherein failure interrupts communication with the email server. Okada only discloses establishing communication with the email server after the facsimile transmission has either succeeded or failed. The failure disclosed by Okada is a failure of facsimile transmission and does not indicate a failure of communication with the email server.

Applicants' claims 6, 11, and 19 require confirming receipt of the electronic data by the email server. Okada does not disclose the email server confirming receipt of the electronic data.

The Examiner has rejected claims 2, 5, 9 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada, in view of Takaoka U.S. Patent No. 5,103,318. The Examiner states that Takaoka disclose those elements of the rejected claims, including wherein detecting the failure in the complete transmission of electronic data includes examining the storage device for the electronic data after the interruption in electrical power. (Examiner's Action, page 3, ¶ 5).

Applicants respectfully disagree.

Takaoka discloses storing electronic (image) data in a backup image memory 5. After a power failure the electronic data is still in backup image memory 5. Takaoka does not disclose detecting a failure in a complete transmission by examining backup image memory 5. Additionally, Takaoka does not disclose that a failure is detected by examining the file management information in system memory 10, only that system controller 11 reads out the file management information and then generates a report.

The Examiner has rejected claims 7, 12, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada as applied to claims 1, 8 and 13 above, and further in view of Nobuta (U.S. Patent No. 5,258,853).

Applicants respectfully disagree.

In view of Applicants' arguments with respect to independent claims 1, 8, and 13 being allowable, Applicants respectfully submits that the remaining dependent claims are also allowable because they contain all of the limitations of their respective independent claims and further add structural and functional limitations.

The foregoing arguments are believed to be a complete response to the most recent Examiner's Action.

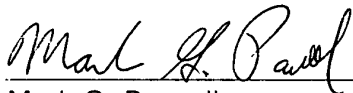
No new matter has been added.

It is respectfully submitted that there is no claim, teaching, motivation, or suggestion in any of the prior art cited, alone or in combination, to produce what Applicants claims.

It is further submitted that the application defines patentable subject matter and that the claims are in a condition for allowance. Such allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Should any issues remain which would preclude the prompt disposition of this case, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,
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